GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2944
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003
SERVICES OF NURSING HOMES CLINICS
MAHESHWAR SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that complaints are being made from time to time regarding quality of services provided by the private clinics, nursing homes and other medical institutions;

(b) if so, whether it has become essential to prescribe minimum standard for employees working there and also for providing basic facilities;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have sent a draft proposal in this regard to the State Governments to get it passed by their respective legislative assemblies; and

(d) if so, the details of the State Governments who have got it passed and those who have intimated the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)&(b): Health being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to regulate the functioning of private and public hospitals as well as nursing homes. Some of the States like NCT of Delhi, Sikkim, Assam, Madhya Pradesh etc. have necessary legislation in this regard. The Central Government is considering to enact a legislation prescribing standards and specifications that will stipulate minimum standards for hospitals, nursing homes and other clinical establishments. The proposed enactment would lay down norms for assessment, accreditation, inspection, certification, regulation of such clinical establishments as well as maintenance of records.

(c)&(d): In the year 2001, a reference was made to all the States seeking the consent of their legislatures under Article 252 of the Constitution for enactment of a Central legislation in this regard. The States of Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh have given their consent.